

resolution concerning the tenth anniversary of the Tiananmen Square massacre of June 4, 1989, in the People's Republic of China.

AMENDMENT NO. 377

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SMITH), the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN), and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. FITZGERALD) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 377 proposed to S. 1059, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2000 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 383

At the request of Mr. THURMOND, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 383 proposed to S. 1059, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2000 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 34—RELATING TO THE OBSERVANCE OF "IN MEMORY" DAY

Mr. SPECTER submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. CON. RES. 34

Whereas many of the individuals who served in the Armed Forces and in civilian roles in Vietnam during the Vietnam War have since died, in part as the result of illnesses and conditions associated with service in Vietnam during that war;

Whereas these men and women, whose ultimate health conditions had a basis in their service in Vietnam during the Vietnam War, sacrificed their lives for their country in a very real sense;

Whereas under criteria established by the Department of Defense, the deaths of these men and women do not qualify as Vietnam War deaths;

Whereas under Department guidelines, these men and women also do not meet the criteria for eligibility to have their names inscribed on the Memorial Wall of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in the District of Columbia;

Whereas "In Memory" Day was established several years ago in order to honor the Americans who gave their lives in service to their country as a result of service in Vietnam but had not otherwise been honored for doing so;

Whereas "In Memory" Day is now a project of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund;

Whereas to date 633 Americans have met the criteria for eligibility to be honored by the "In Memory" Program; and

Whereas the Americans who have been named by the "In Memory" Program are honored each year during a ceremony at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that "In Memory" Day should be observed on the third Monday in April each year, the day on which Patriots Day is also observed, in honor of the men and women of the United States whose deaths had a basis in their service in Vietnam during the Vietnam War and who are thereby true examples to the Nation of patriotism and sacrifice.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, today I submit a concurrent resolution which would express the Sense of the Congress that the third Monday in April be designated "In Memory Day." In Memory Day will be a time for family and friends to gather and commemorate the supreme sacrifice made by their loved ones as their names are read from the In Memory Honor Roll at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, as was done most recently on April 19, 1999. I feel this to be a small yet fitting tribute to those whose lives were ultimately claimed by the war in Vietnam.

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial is a solemn reminder that the defense of liberty is not without loss. The 58,214 servicemembers who gave their lives in Vietnam will forever be memorialized in a most fitting manner. Their names, inscribed in granite walls, symbolize the reality that our nation's military personnel protects America behind walls built with the blood of patriots. We must keep them in our memory always.

Not all of those who died, however, are commemorated on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Unaccounted for are those succumbed to the ravages of psychological wounds upon their return home. Unaccounted for are all those who died after war's end, yet whose deaths were intrinsically linked to wartime service. Their family members and loved ones have no wall to go to; no names to touch; no memorial to share.

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF) runs an "In Memory Program" to honor these silent fallen. As part of this program, the VVMF keeps an "In Memory Honor Roll" to commemorate those who served and died prematurely, but whose deaths do not fit the parameters for inclusion upon the Wall. It is time for Congress to do its part in honoring these brave soldiers and their families.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2000

HUTCHISON AMENDMENT NO. 389
(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mrs. HUTCHISON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill (S. 1059) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2000 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place in the bill, insert the following:

SEC. . (a) Congress makes the following findings:

(1) It is the National Security Strategy of the United States to "deter and defeat large-scale, cross-border aggression in two distant theaters in overlapping time frames;"

(2) The deterrence of Iraq and Iran in Southwest Asia and the deterrence of North Korea in Northeast Asia represent two such potential large-scale, cross-border theater requirements;

(3) The United States has 120,000 troops permanently assigned to those theaters;

(4) The United States has an additional 70,000 troops assigned to non-NATO/non-Pacific threat foreign countries;

(5) The United States has more than 6,000 troops in Bosnia-Herzegovina on indefinite assignment;

(6) The United States has diverted permanently assigned resources from other theaters to support operations in the Balkans;

(7) The United States provides military forces to seven active United Nations peacekeeping operations, including missions in Haiti and the Western Sahara, and some missions that have continued for decades;

(8) Between 1986 and 1998, the number of American military deployments per year has nearly tripled at the same time the Department of Defense budget has been reduced in real terms by 38 percent;

(9) The Army has 10 active-duty divisions today, down from 18 in 1991, while on an average day in FY98, 28,000 U.S. Army soldiers were deployed to more than 70 countries for over 300 separate missions;

(10) Active Air Force fighter wings have gone from 22 to 13 since 1991, while 70 percent of air sorties in Operation Allied Force over the Balkans are U.S.-flown and the Air Force continues to enforce northern and southern no-fly zones in Iraq;

(11) The United States Navy has been reduced in size to 339 ships, its lowest level since 1938, necessitating the redeployment of the only overseas homeported aircraft carrier from the Western Pacific to the Mediterranean to support Operation Allied Force;

(12) In 1998 just 10 percent of eligible carrier naval aviators—27 out of 261—accepted continuation bonuses and remained in service;

(13) In 1998 48 percent of Air Force pilots eligible for continuation opted to leave the service.

(14) The Army could fall 6,000 below Congressionally authorized troop strength by the end of 1999.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS:

(1) It is the sense of Congress that—

(A) The readiness of U.S. military forces to execute the National Security Strategy of the United States is being eroded from a combination of declining defense budgets and expanded missions;

(B) There may be missions to which the United States is contributing Armed Forces from which the United States can begin disengaging.

(c) REPORT REQUIREMENT.—

(1) Not later than July 30, 1999, the President shall submit to the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate and the Committee on National Security of the House of Representatives, and to the Committees on Appropriations in both Houses, a report prioritizing the ongoing global missions to which the United States is contributing troops. The President shall include in the report:

(I) a proposal for shifting resources from low priority missions in support of higher priority missions;

(II) a proposal for consolidating or reducing U.S. troop commitments where possible;

(III) a proposal to reduce U.S. troop commitments worldwide;

(IV) a proposal for ending low priority missions.

FRIST AMENDMENT NO. 390

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. FRIST submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill, S. 1059, *supra*; as follows:

On page 254, between lines 3 and 4, insert the following:

SEC. 676. PARTICIPATION OF ADDITIONAL MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES IN MONTGOMERY GI BILL PROGRAM.

(a) PARTICIPATION AUTHORIZED.—(1) Subchapter II of chapter 30 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 3018C the following new section:

“§ 3018d. Opportunity to enroll: certain VEAP participants; active duty personnel not previously enrolled

“(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an individual who—

“(1) either—

“(A) is a participant on the date of the enactment of this section in the educational benefits program provided by chapter 32 of this title; or

“(B) has made an election under section 3011(c)(1) or 3012(d)(1) of this title not to receive educational assistance under this chapter and has not withdrawn that election under section 3018(a) of this title as of such date;

“(2) is serving on active duty (excluding periods referred to in section 3202(1)(C) of this title in the case of an individual described in paragraph (1)(A)) on such date;

“(3) before applying for benefits under this section, has completed the requirements of a secondary school diploma (or equivalency certificate) or has successfully completed the equivalent of 12 semester hours in a program of education leading to a standard college degree;

“(4) if discharged or released from active duty after the date on which the individual makes the election described in paragraph (5), is discharged with an honorable discharge or released with service characterized as honorable by the Secretary concerned; and

“(5) during the one-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this section, makes an irrevocable election to receive benefits under this section in lieu of benefits under chapter 32 of this title or withdraws the election made under section 3011(c)(1) or 3012(d)(1) of this title, as the case may be, pursuant to procedures which the Secretary of each military department shall provide in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense for the purpose of carrying out this section or which the Secretary of Transportation shall provide for

such purpose with respect to the Coast Guard when it is not operating as a service in the Navy;

is entitled to basic educational assistance under this chapter.

“(b)(1) Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3), in the case of an individual who makes an election under subsection (a)(5) to become entitled to basic education assistance under this chapter—

“(A) the basic pay of the individual shall be reduced (in a manner determined by the Secretary of Defense) until the total amount by which such basic pay is reduced is \$1,200; or

“(B) to the extent that basic pay is not so reduced before the individual's discharge or release from active duty as specified in subsection (a)(4), the Secretary shall collect from the individual an amount equal to the difference between \$1,200 and the total amount of reductions under subparagraph (A), which shall be paid into the Treasury of the United States as miscellaneous receipts.

“(2) In the case of an individual previously enrolled in the educational benefits program provided by chapter 32 of this title, the Secretary shall reduce the total amount of the reduction in basic pay otherwise required by paragraph (1) by an amount equal to so much of the unused contributions made by the individual to the Post-Vietnam Era Veterans Education Account under section 3222(a) of this title as do not exceed \$1,200.

“(3) An individual may at any time pay the Secretary an amount equal to the difference between the total of the reductions otherwise required with respect to the individual under this subsection and the total amount of the reductions with respect to the individual under this subsection at the time of the payment. Amounts paid under this paragraph shall be paid into the Treasury of the United States as miscellaneous receipts.

“(c)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (3), an individual who is enrolled in the educational benefits program provided by chapter 32 of this title and who makes the election described in subsection (a)(5) shall be disenrolled from the program as of the date of such election.

“(2) For each individual who is disenrolled from such program, the Secretary shall refund—

“(A) to the individual in the manner provided in section 3223(b) of this title so much of the unused contributions made by the individual to the Post-Vietnam Era Veterans Education Account as are not used to reduce the amount of the reduction in the individual's basic pay under subsection (b)(2); and

“(B) to the Secretary of Defense the unused contributions (other than contributions made under section 3222(c) of this title) made by such Secretary to the Account on behalf of such individual.

“(3) Any contribution made by the Secretary of Defense to the Post-Vietnam Era Veterans Education Account pursuant to section 3222(c) of this title on behalf of an individual referred to in paragraph (1) shall remain in such account to make payments of benefits to the individual under section 3015(f) of this title.

“(d) The procedures provided in regulations referred to in subsection (a) shall provide for notice of the requirements of subparagraphs (B), (C), and (D) of section 3011(a)(3) of this title. Receipt of such notice shall be acknowledged in writing.”

(2) The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 30 of that title is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 3018C the following new item:

“3018D. Opportunity to enroll: certain VEAP participants; active duty personnel not previously enrolled.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 3015(f) of that title is amended by striking “or 3018C” and inserting “3018C, or 3018D”.

(c) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that any law enacted after the date of the enactment of this Act which includes provisions terminating or reducing the contributions of members of the Armed Forces for basic educational assistance under subchapter II of chapter 30 of title 38, United States Code, should terminate or reduce by an identical amount the contributions of members of the Armed Forces for such assistance under section of section 3018D of that title, as added by subsection (a).

(d) TERMINATION OF TRIANA PROGRAM OF NASA.—(1) The Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration shall terminate the Triana program.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no funds authorized to be appropriated for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration fiscal year 2000 may be obligated or expended for the Triana program, except \$2,500,000 which shall be available for obligation and expenditure in that fiscal year only for the costs of termination of the program.

**THURMOND (AND OTHERS)
AMENDMENT NO. 391**

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. THURMOND (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. CLELAND, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. BURNS, Mr. LOTT, Mr. MACK, and Ms. SNOWE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by them to the bill, S. 1059, *supra*; as follows:

In title VI, at the end of subtitle D, add the following:

SEC. 659. COMPUTATION OF SURVIVOR BENEFITS.

(a) INCREASED BASIC ANNUITY.—(1) Subsection (a)(1)(B)(i) of section 1451 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking “35 percent of the base amount.” and inserting “the product of the base amount and the percent applicable for the month. The percent applicable for a month is 35 percent for months beginning on or before the date of the enactment of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2000, 40 percent for months beginning after such date and before October 2004, and 45 percent for months beginning after September 2004.”.

(2) Subsection (a)(2)(B)(i) of such section is amended by striking “35 percent” and inserting “the percent specified under subsection (a)(1)(B)(i) as being applicable for the month”.

(3) Subsection (c)(1)(B)(i) of such section is amended—

(A) by striking “35 percent” and inserting “the applicable percent”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following: “The percent applicable for a month under the preceding sentence is the percent specified under subsection (a)(1)(B)(i) as being applicable for the month.”.

(4) The heading for subsection (d)(2)(A) of such section is amended to read as follows: “COMPUTATION OF ANNUITY.—”.

(b) ADJUSTED SUPPLEMENTAL ANNUITY.—Section 1457(b) of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking “5, 10, 15, or 20 percent” and inserting “the applicable percent”; and

(2) by inserting after the first sentence the following: "The percent used for the computation shall be an even multiple of 5 percent and, whatever the percent specified in the election, may not exceed 20 percent for months beginning on or before the date of the enactment of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2000, 15 percent for months beginning after that date and before October 2004, and 10 percent for months beginning after September 2004."

(C) RECOMPUTATION OF ANNUITIES.—(1) Effective on the first day of each month referred to in paragraph (2)—

(A) each annuity under section 1450 of title 10, United States Code, that commenced before that month, is computed under a provision of section 1451 of that title amended by subsection (a), and is payable for that month shall be recomputed so as to be equal to the amount that would be in effect if the percent applicable for that month under that provision, as so amended, had been used for the initial computation of the annuity; and

(B) each supplemental survivor annuity under section 1457 of such title that commenced before that month and is payable for that month shall be recomputed so as to be equal to the amount that would be in effect if the percent applicable for that month under that section, as amended by this section, had been used for the initial computation of the supplemental survivor annuity.

(2) The requirements for recomputation of annuities under paragraph (1) apply with respect to the following months:

(A) The first month that begins after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(B) October 2004.

(d) RECOMPUTATION OF RETIRED PAY REDUCTIONS FOR SUPPLEMENTAL SURVIVOR ANNUITIES.—The Secretary of Defense shall take such actions as are necessitated by the amendments made by subsection (b) and the requirements of subsection (c)(1)(B) to ensure that the reductions in retired pay under section 1460 of title 10, United States Code, are adjusted to achieve the objectives set forth in subsection (b) of that section.

GRAMM (AND OTHERS) AMENDMENT NO. 392

Mr. GRAMM (for himself, Mr. HATCH, and Mr. THURMOND) proposed an amendment to the bill, S. 1059, *supra*; as follows:

On page 284, strike all on line 7 through line 14 on page 286.

MCCAIN (AND OTHERS) AMENDMENT NO. 393

Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. BRYAN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. KOHL, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. ROBB, Mr. KYL, Mr. HAGEL, and Mr. CHAFEE) proposed an amendment to the bill, S. 1059, *supra*; as follows:

On page 450, below line 25, add the following:

SEC. 2822. AUTHORITY TO CARRY OUT BASE CLOSURE ROUND COMMENCING IN 2001.

(a) COMMISSION MATTERS.—

(1) APPOINTMENT.—Subsection (c)(1) of section 2902 of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (part A of title XXIX of Public Law 101-510; 10 U.S.C. 2687 note) is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) by striking "and" at the end of clause (ii);

(ii) by striking the period at the end of clause (iii) and inserting "; and"; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following new clause (iv):

"(iv) by no later than May 1, 2001, in the case of members of the Commission whose terms will expire on September 30, 2002."; and

(B) in subparagraph (C), by striking "or for 1995 in clause (iii) of such subparagraph" and inserting "; for 1995 in clause (iii) of that subparagraph, or for 2001 in clause (iv) of that subparagraph".

(2) MEETINGS.—Subsection (e) of that section is amended by striking "and 1995" and inserting "1995, and 2001, and in 2002 during the period ending on September 30 of that year".

(3) FUNDING.—Subsection (k) of that section is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph (4):

"(4) If no funds are appropriated to the Commission by the end of the second session of the 106th Congress for the activities of the Commission that commence in 2001, the Secretary may transfer to the Commission for purposes of its activities under this part that commence in that year such funds as the Commission may require to carry out such activities. The Secretary may transfer funds under the preceding sentence from any funds available to the Secretary. Funds so transferred shall remain available to the Commission for such purposes until expended."

(5) TERMINATION.—Subsection (1) of that section is amended by striking "December 31, 1995" and inserting "September 30, 2002".

(b) PROCEDURES.—

(1) FORCE-STRUCTURE PLAN.—Subsection (a)(1) of section 2903 of that Act is amended by adding at the end the following: "The Secretary shall also submit to Congress a force-structure plan for fiscal year 2002 that meets the requirements of the preceding sentence not later than March 30, 2001."

(2) SELECTION CRITERIA.—Subsection (b) of such section 2903 is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting "and by no later than March 1, 2001, for purposes of activities of the Commission under this part that commence in 2001," after "December 31, 1990."; and

(B) in paragraph (2)(A)—

(i) in the first sentence, by inserting "and by no later than April 15, 2001, for purposes of activities of the Commission under this part that commence in 2001," after "February 15, 1991."; and

(ii) in the second sentence, by inserting "or enacted on or before May 15, 2001, in the case of criteria published and transmitted under the preceding sentence in 2001" after "March 15, 1991".

(3) DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE RECOMMENDATIONS.—Subsection (c) of such section 2903 is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking "and March 1, 1995," and inserting "March 1, 1995, and September 1, 2001.";

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (4), (5), and (6) as paragraphs (5), (6), and (7), respectively;

(C) by inserting after paragraph (3) the following new paragraph (4):

"(4)(A) In making recommendations to the Commission under this subsection in 2001, the Secretary shall consider any notice received from a local government in the vicinity of a military installation that the government would approve of the closure or realignment of the installation.
"(B) Notwithstanding the requirement in subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall make the recommendations referred to in that subparagraph based on the force-structure plan and final criteria otherwise applicable to such recommendations under this section.

"(C) The recommendations made by the Secretary under this subsection in 2001 shall include a statement of the result of the consideration of any notice described in subparagraph (A) that is received with respect to an installation covered by such recommendations. The statement shall set forth the reasons for the result."; and

(D) in paragraph (7), as so redesignated—

(i) in the first sentence, by striking "paragraph (5)(B)" and inserting "paragraph (6)(B)"; and

(ii) in the second sentence, by striking "24 hours" and inserting "48 hours".

(4) COMMISSION REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS.—Subsection (d) of such section 2903 is amended—

(A) in paragraph (2)(A), by inserting "or by no later than February 1, 2002, in the case of recommendations in 2001," after "pursuant to subsection (c).";

(B) in paragraph (4), by inserting "or after February 1, 2002, in the case of recommendations in 2001," after "under this subsection."; and

(C) in paragraph (5)(B), by inserting "or by no later than October 15 in the case of such recommendations in 2001," after "such recommendations".

(5) REVIEW BY PRESIDENT.—Subsection (e) of such section 2903 is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting "or by no later than February 15, 2002, in the case of recommendations in 2001," after "under subsection (d).";

(B) in the second sentence of paragraph (3), by inserting "or by no later than March 15, 2002, in the case of 2001," after "the year concerned."; and

(C) in paragraph (5), by inserting "or by April 1, 2002, in the case of recommendations in 2001," after "under this part.".

(c) CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT OF INSTALLATIONS.—Section 2904(a) of that Act is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as paragraphs (4) and (5), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following new paragraph (3):

"(3) carry out the privatization in place of a military installation recommended for closure or realignment by the Commission in a report in 2002 only if privatization in place is a method of closure or realignment of the installation specified in the recommendation of the Commission in the report and is determined to be the most-cost effective method of implementation of the recommendation.".

(d) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER BASE CLOSURE AUTHORITY.—Section 2909(a) of that Act is amended by striking "December 31, 1995," and inserting "September 30, 2002.".

(e) TECHNICAL AND CLARIFYING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) COMMENCEMENT OF PERIOD FOR NOTICE OF INTEREST IN PROPERTY FOR HOMELESS.—Section 2905(b)(7)(D)(ii) of that Act is amended by striking "that date" and inserting "the date of publication of such determination in a newspaper of general circulation in the communities in the vicinity of the installation under subparagraph (B)(i)(IV)".

(2) OTHER CLARIFYING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) That Act is further amended by inserting "or realignment" after "closure" each place it appears in the following provisions:

(i) Section 2905(b)(3).

(ii) Section 2905(b)(4)(B)(ii).

(iii) Section 2905(b)(5).

(iv) Section 2905(b)(7)(B)(iv).

(v) Section 2905(b)(7)(N).

(vi) Section 2910(10)(B).

(B) That Act is further amended by inserting "or realigned" after "closed" each place in appears in the following provisions:

- (i) Section 2905(b)(3)(C)(ii).
- (ii) Section 2905(b)(3)(D).
- (iii) Section 2905(b)(3)(E).
- (iv) Section 2905(b)(4)(A).
- (v) Section 2905(b)(5)(A).
- (vi) Section 2910(9).
- (vii) Section 2910(10).

(C) Section 2905(e)(1)(B) of that Act is amended by inserting “, or realigned or to be realigned,” after “closed or to be closed”.

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public that an oversight hearing has been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will take place on Thursday, June 10, 1999 at 9:30 a.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on the report of the National Recreation Lakes Study Commission.

Those wishing to testify or who wish to submit written statements should write to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510. For further information, please call Kelly Johnson at (202) 224-4971.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 25, for purposes of conducting a full committee hearing which is scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. The purpose of this oversight hearing is to receive testimony on State Progress in Retail Electricity Competition.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the full Committee on Environment and Public Works be granted permission to conduct a hearing on reauthorization of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Liability and Compensation Act of 1980, Tuesday, May 25, 10 a.m., Hearing Room (SD-406).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, the Finance Committee requests unanimous consent to conduct a hearing on Tuesday, May 25, 1999 beginning at 10 a.m. in room 215 Dirksen.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 25, 1999 at 2:15 p.m. to hold a hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 25, 1999 at 10 a.m. in room 226 of the Senate Dirksen Office Building to hold a hearing on: “Copyright Office Report on Distance Education in the Digital Environment.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND RECREATION

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation and Recreation of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 25, for purposes of conducting a subcommittee hearing which is scheduled to begin at 2:15 p.m. The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on S. 140, a bill to establish the Thomas Cole National Historic Site in the State of New York as an affiliated area of the National Park System, and for other purposes; S. 734, the National Discovery Trails Act of 1999; S. 762, a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a feasibility study on the inclusion of the Miami Circle Biscayne National Park; S. 938, a bill to eliminate restrictions on the acquisitions of certain land contiguous to Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, and for other purposes; S. 939, a bill to correct spelling errors in the statutory designations of Hawaiian National Parks; S. 946, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to transfer administrative jurisdiction over land within the boundaries of the Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site to the Archivist of the United States for the construction of a visitor center; and S. 955, a bill to allow the National Park Service to acquire certain land for addition to the Wilderness Battlefield in Virginia, as previously authorized by law, by purchase.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NEAR EASTERN AND SOUTH ASIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 25, 1999 at 10 a.m. to hold a hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

NATIONAL MISSING CHILDREN'S DAY

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I rise today to promote awareness of missing children and honor those who selflessly work to search and rescue the thousands of children who disappear each year. As my colleagues may know, today is recognized as “National Missing Children’s Day.”

According to a recent U.S. Department of Justice study, annually there are over 114,000 attempted abductions of children by nonfamily members, 4,500 child abductions reported to police, and 438,200 children who are lost, injured, or otherwise missing. These numbers are truly cause for concern by all Americans.

As a parent, I believe local communities, schools, faith-based organizations and law enforcement should be encouraged to work together to protect the most vulnerable members of our society—children. From a federal perspective, I am proud to be a cosponsor of legislation to reauthorize the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and the Runaway and Homeless Youth Program through the next five years. The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children operates under a Congressional mandate and works in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Justice’s Office of Juvenile Justice on Delinquency Prevention. I know my colleagues would agree that the Center has an outstanding record of safely recovering missing children across the country, and most recently achieved a 91 percent recovery rate.

Mr. President, as we remember the many missing children across the nation today, I want to especially recognize the relentless work and effort to protect our nation’s children by Minnesota’s Jacob Wetterling Foundation. The Foundation was established by Jerry and Patty Wetterling after their son, Jacob, was abducted by a masked man at gunpoint near the Wetterling home in St. Joseph, Minnesota. Today, the Jacob Wetterling Foundation is a national, non-profit foundation committed to preventing the exploitation of children through educating, raising awareness and responding to families who are victims of abduction.

Mr. President, our children represent our future and we must continue our work to keep them safe. Again, I commend the numerous volunteers, organizations, and government agencies who all work on a daily basis to find missing children and prevent others from disappearing.